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4a

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
FAMODU ET AL.

CASE NO.: BB1191 US DIV

SERIAL NO.: UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

FILED: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: PLANT AMINO ACYL-tRNA SYNTHETASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-30.

Add the following new claims:

31. An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having the activity of cysteinyl-tRNA synthetase, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 80% identity based on the Clustal alignment method, or

(b) the complement of the nucleotide sequence.

32. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 85% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

33. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 90% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

34. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 95% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

35. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, or SEQ ID NO:13.